

Feb. 25 1944

Leuit. Jerome Kessler
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Dear Jerry:

It was so nice to get your note. Funny thing I was thinking of you, and wishing you were around. In the same mail with your letter, I received one from Mr Beer of The Call, asking me for a little information about the baseball. Isn't it a shame a paper has to write and ask for information. The fact is Butts is a very poor publicity man. He does not know the first thing about publicity for a ball club. He was by here a week or so ago, and talked to Abe, and proceeded to send a story to the colored papers telling the fans Mr Manley was going south to try and get some rookies. (not a line to the dailies, but I am glad he didn't send that particular story). The fact is that Wells and Dandridge have both promised to stay and play with us this year. We have Hill, Hooker, Hoobgood, Pearson, Davis, Harvey, Stone all in 4F, and Watkins with a big family at the present time in 3A. I think the fans would much have preferred knowing these things. We have also heard from Mackey and he is willing to come back.

One of the colored papers has a man who is trying to get both leagues to hire him for statistics. He is Wendell Smith of the Courier. I believe this would be a good move, but I doubt very much if our league will accept it. He told me he will give me the service for The Eagles alone if the rest do not want it, and I am thinking seriously about accepting it.

In the meantime could you send a story to the daily papers without violating any army regulations? If so I would appreciate it. Our league is meeting in New York at the Hotel Theresa next Thursday March 2nd and I am sure some of the white fans would like to know this, and a lot of the colored ones don't read the colored papers.

I hope you are feeling good. Let me hear from you.
Sincerely Yours